



NCLB Making a Difference in South Carolina

- President Bush's 2005 budget proposal increases federal education funding for South Carolina to more than \$1.4 billion – 52% more than when the President took office.
- President Bush's 2005 budget proposal increases Title I funding to \$174.8 million – \$59.8 million over 2001 levels – to help South Carolina's neediest children.
- South Carolina has received \$42.9 million in reading grants to help schools and districts improve children's reading achievement through scientifically proven methods of instruction since 2002. President Bush's proposed budget includes an additional \$15.8 million for South Carolina. In total, over six years, South Carolina is set to receive approximately \$88.6 million in Reading First funds.
- "South Carolina remained first in the nation in its efforts to improve teacher quality, according a national report. The annual Quality Counts report published by Education Week magazine gave South Carolina an 'A-' in improving teacher quality, the highest grade of any state and an improvement from last year's 'B+.' The state received good grades for requiring skills tests for teachers to earn licenses and limiting the number of educators who can teach a subject outside of their fields. South Carolina is one of 15 states that provide mentoring and financial support for all new teachers, the report said." (*Associated Press*, 1/7/04)
- "South Carolina students scored above average on the National Assessment of Educational Progress tests for reading, language and math skills for the fourth straight year, the state Education Department said. Among South Carolina students, 57.1 percent of fifth-graders, 51.3 percent of eighth-graders and 54.6 percent of eleventh-graders beat the national average in 2003. Only 50 percent of fifth-graders scored above average in 2000." (*Associated Press*, 2/18/04)
- "South Carolina will receive nearly \$500,000 in grants from the U.S. Department of Education for an interactive science curriculum that allows students to have real-time contact with researchers as they work on actual scientific expeditions. The money will go toward training about 500 South Carolina teachers from 100 middle schools to integrate the JASON Foundation curriculum into their classrooms. The JASON project was founded in 1989 by explorer Robert Ballard after his discovery of the Titanic. The organization was named after the remote operating vehicle Ballard used to discover the ship's wreckage. By using the Internet and satellite television, the program allows students in a classroom to participate in scientific voyages as they are happening. The curriculum meets national and state standards for science, math, social studies and language arts." (*Island Packet*, 7/19/04)